

The 13th Aruba International Pro-Am Golf Tournament welcomes golf greats from then countries.

What is likely one of the most exciting events for avid golfers of Aruba, the Caribbean and Latin America will finish this evening with an awards dinner at the Tierra Del Sol Country Club and Golf Course. Head Golf Pro Oliver Riding was joined by the Minister of Tourism, Edison Briesen in welcoming over 150 talented amateur golfers, whose teams will be accompanied by a stellar assembly of golf professionals. The players from Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Colombia, Trinidad, Curacao, Holland, The Bahamas, Aruba, and the U.S.A. won their places in the tournament during play-off tournaments in their home countries. Top professionals such as "La Estrelita" (Little Star) Jesus Amaya of Colombia, winner of the Venezuelan Open, and Robert Ames of Trinidad are participating in this year's event.

The annual Aruba International Pro-Am Golf Tournament kicked-off on Friday evening with a welcome cocktail party and registration on the pool terrace of the Tierra Del Sol, offering many of the participants their first glimpse of the course that will challenge them over the weekend. Two days of play will earn some nice prizes for the winning teams, and a few early arrivals took the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the Robert Trent-Jones course, which has some "very interesting challenges" according to U.S. team pro Bryan Berryman. Players will possibly find that weather conditions will provide a drop in Aruba's usually heavy winds, something that has always provided an advantage to local players who are accustomed to the conditions.

Oliver Riding welcomed the group and explained the rules, while thanking the major sponsors of this year's event. This includes the Aruba Tourism Authority, JV Oduber, CMB, Little Switzerland, Stern Motors, Aruba Trading Company, Playa Trading and Tropical Bottling. He also offered thanks to the host resorts, Divi Village, The Westin, Occidental, and Tierra del Sol. Championship/amateur golf action began on Saturday and will continue throughout the day on the scenic course, an enjoyable and educational experience for all the players!